

NEW SYNONYMY IN THE APHODIINI OF THE UNITED STATES

By O. L. CARTWRIGHT

Recent examination of type specimens of *Aphodius* and *Ataenius* in the collections of the Academy of Natural Sciences of Philadelphia and the Museum of Comparative Zoology at Harvard revealed three unrecorded cases of synonymy in these genera. Since contemplated revisions may be delayed, the three cases are recorded below.

Aphodius laevigatus Haldeman

Aphodius laevigatus Haldeman, 1848, Journ. Acad. Nat. Sci. Philadelphia, Ser. 2, vol. 1, p. 103

Aphodius goffi Cartwright, 1939, Ann. Ent. Soc. America, vol. 32, p. 354. (New synonymy.)

In checking the LeConte series of *A. concavus* Say in the MCZ collection, the #5 specimen was found to bear the type label of Haldeman's *laevigatus* and to be quite different from other specimens in the *concavus* series. Further examination and comparison of *laevigatus* with a paratype of *goffi* Cartw. showed these two were identical. *Aphodius laevigatus* Haldeman should be restored to good standing and *goffi* Cartw. placed in synonymy.

Ataenius puncticollis (LeConte)

Euparia puncticollis LeConte, 1858, Proc. Acad. Nat. Sci. Philadelphia, vol. 10, p. 66.

Ataenius inops Horn, 1887, Trans. American Ent. Soc., vol. 14, p. 73. (New synonymy.)

After examination of the LeConte type of *Ataenius puncticollis*, I believe it to be only a much worn dirty broken specimen of the species we have accepted as *Ataenius inops* Horn. Since LeConte's description of *puncticollis* was published first, the name *inops* should be placed in synonymy.

Ataenius lobatus Horn

Ataenius lobatus Horn, 1871, Trans. American Ent. Soc., vol. 3, p. 287.

Ataenius laeviventris Horn, 1887, Trans. American Ent. Soc., vol. 14, p. 74. (New synonymy.)

The noticeably lobed pronotum of Horn's *lobatus* serves as an excellent character in recognizing the species. The same lobed

pronotum in *laeviventris* led to a direct comparison of the series of each in the Horn collection at the Philadelphia Academy, and they were found to be the same. The only essential difference given by Horn seems to be the dentate or angulate clypeus. The specimens bearing the type labels were compared and found identical in punctuation, shape of pronotum, humerus, abdominal segments, posterior femoral line, tarsi and spurs. Only the angulate clypeus of *laeviventris* seemed to differ and here the clypeal edge was thickened but not dentate. This condition of the clypeal edge was probably due to wear since the teeth of the fore tibiae also showed evidence of having been worn away. Angulate and dentate specimens were found in both series from Arizona and California. I believe the holotype of *Ataenius laeviventris* is only a worn specimen of *lobatus* and that the name should be relegated to synonymy.

REPORT OF THE TREASURER FOR 1950

RECEIPTS

Balance brought forward	\$0.00
Memberships and subscriptions	723.75
Supporting memberships	218.38
From Smithsonian Institution for illustrations	47.17
Sale of back numbers	96.95
Sale of reprints	5.75
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Total receipts	\$1092.00

EXPENDITURES

Printing Volume IV	\$505.95
Miscellaneous printing and mimeographing	68.99
Purchase of back volumes	89.80
Account books	14.23
Second class mailing permit	25.00
Postage	35.82
Bank Charges	13.55
Advertising (Naturalists' Directory)	6.00
Illustrations in volume IV	60.86
Miscellaneous	2.00
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Total expenditures	\$822.20
Balance in bank, December 31, 1950	\$88.35
Cash on hand	181.45
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Balance carried forward	\$269.80